

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01262 051304Z

45

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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R 051240Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2673

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1262

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI

SUBJECT: L-100'S FOR THE LIBYANS

REF: STATE 261796

1. AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, QADHAFI HAS SAID PUBLICLY (TO FOISIE OF THE LA TIMES IN JULY) THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER OUR RELEASE OF THE EIGHT C-130'S TO HIM A "TOKEN OF YOUR WISH TO COME BACK TO GOOD RELATIONS". OTHER LIBYAN OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US OVER AND OVER THAT IF WE WOULD RELEASE THE C-130'S, OUR RELATIONS COULD QUICKLY IMPROVE.

2. WITH THIS IN MIND, AND SINCE THE C-130 ISSUE IS SO CENTRAL TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, WE URGE THAT WHATEVER THE DEPT DECIDES ABOUT ALLOWING THE LARG TO TAKE DELIVERY OF THE PLANES IF THEY ARE CONVERTED TO L-100 CONFIGURATION, THE DECISION BE COMMUNICATED TO THE LIBYAN GOVT IN A POLITICAL CONTEXT, AND THAT IT NOT BE LEFT TO LOCKHEED TO INFORM THE LIBYANS. IF DEPT'S DECISION IS FAVORABLE, WE SHOULD PORTRAY IT TO THE LIBYANS AS A CONCRETE GESTURE WHICH DEMONSTRATES OUR WILLINGNESS TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF IMPROVED RELATIONS.

3. THE EMBASSY'S VIEW IS THAT CONVERSION OF THE C-130'
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TO L-100 A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE WHICH HAS TAKEN ON

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPORTANCE AS A SYMBOL OF U.S.
HOSTILITY TO THE REGIME.
STEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 05 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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